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District of Arizona*

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PHOENIX MVD EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR MAKING FALSE I.D. CARD

PHOENIX - Barbara Bojorquez Youssef, 37, of Phoenix, was sentenced here to 14 months in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Neil V. Wake for Unlawfully Producing an Identification Document. Youssef pleaded guilty on October 4, 2005. She was one of 16 arrested in September 2004 in the Phoenix area as a result of a two year investigation into corruption at the Arizona MVD.

"This type of fraud threatens the security of our borders," stated Paul K. Charlton, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. "ID cards such as the one she unlawfully made for her husband can be used to board aircraft and for a variety of other security purposes."

Between 2001 and 2004 Youssef worked as a Customer Service Representative at the Phoenix Central Branch of the Arizona MVD. On January 6, 2004, defendant took the driver's license record of an existing customer and unlawfully changed the name, date of birth, height and weight in the record to create an Arizona identification card for a man whom she married one week later. He was in deportation proceedings at the time and she was not permitted to issued him an identification card.

During the sentencing phase of the case, Judge Wake took into account that Youssef took an existing customer record and changed it, that she planned the offense in advance, that she abused her position of trust as a government employee and that she lied to FBI agents during their investigation.

Youssef's sentencing occurred on Friday, April 7, 2006. The investigation leading to the conviction was conducted by the FBI, the Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of Special Investigations and the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The prosecution was handled by Mary Beth Pfister, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-04-989-PHX-NVW
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